

KAAOs On The Water Tournament

Rules

Participation and Eligibility

The KAAOs On The Water Tournaments are open to all anglers provided they meet the requirements and regulations stated herein.

Liability Release and License Requirements

1. All participants must read and fully understand The Liability Release Form before their first event and electronically sign via the link within.
2. Participants under the age of 18 will only be allowed to participate if accompanied by a registered adult.
3. All participants must have a valid fishing license for the event and follow all Department of Natural Resources (MNR) rules and regulations.

Entry Fees

Entry fees are \$25.00 per event (\$20.00 payout + \$5.00 Club fund).

Optional Lunker Pool \$5.00 cash (In the event of a tie, money will be split between tied participants)

PayPal will be the preferred payment method (account name TBD), payment by **cash** is possible, however an additional \$5.00 club fee will be applied.

1. Pre-registration will close @ 2200hrs on Friday night prior to the event.
2. If fishing tandem, both participants must be registered.
3. The \$25.00 entry fee is broken down as such, \$20.00 will go towards the payout pool per event, the remaining club funds of either \$5.00 or \$10.00 (cash buy-in the morning of the event) will be set aside to procure year end trophies/prizes. Any remaining club funds will be used for the year end gathering, can you say BBQ?? Date TBD.

Watercraft

1. ONLY angler powered kayaks, canoes, SUP (Stand Up Paddleboards) will be allowed. No gasoline, electric motors, sailboats, airboats or air tubs. Accommodations can be made for special needs anglers on a case by case basis and are at the discretion of the tournament director.
2. All fish must be caught from your kayak. You are not permitted to leave your kayak to fish from shore or wade.

Launch Point

To be determined based on availability at the body of water.

1. All competitors must launch from shore at the designated spot.
2. All competitors will launch at the designated launch time (6:30 AM mandatory "Floating" Captains' Meeting).

3. Anglers will be on their kayaks in the water by 6:30 AM.

Fishing Methods

1. Only commercially available artificial baits/lures/flyes and hand-tied flies are permitted.
2. "Cut" bait and worms are only permitted for the catfish & panfish events.
3. Rod and Reel and Fly Rods are the only acceptable devices.

Safety Regulations

1. PFD must be properly worn at all times while on the water. Violators will be immediately disqualified.
2. No alcohol, illegal or non-prescribed drugs may be used at any time while participating at any event. This includes from the time the challenge starts (Rules Meeting) until the time money and raffle tickets are awarded.
3. Drugs and alcohol use is strictly prohibited. Any participant found to be under the influence within reasonable suspicion will be disqualified, moneys non-refunded, and receive a score of 0.

General Rules

1. No fish will be kept in stringers, baskets, ice chests, etc.
2. All fish will be immediately released unharmed after a picture is taken.
3. Any one fish can only be submitted once.
4. Attendance at rules meeting is mandatory during the event.

Qualifying Fish

1. See particular event description below.
2. Catch-Photo-Release alive only.
3. Your best **THREE (multispecies)** or **FIVE (Bass)** will be the total length of your virtual stringer.

Weigh In (measure-in) for the Event

ALL ANGLERS HAVE TO BE BACK BY 1:00 PM DURING THE EVENT.

1. All competitors' camera pictures must be turned in at a pre-determined designated place.
 - a. Photos that do not meet the requirements will not be counted.
 - b. Only the competitor being judged will be allowed in the scoring area while the judging is taking place.
 - c. The Tournament organizer and staff will be solely responsible and retain the right to declare any photos unacceptable.
 - d. After money prizes are awarded the Tournament is declared complete.

Judging for Event

1. Challenger's photos will be judged and scored by a panel designated by the Tournament Staff.
 - a. Photos that do not meet the requirements will not be counted. Measured length should be clearly visible. All fish will be scored by $\frac{1}{4}$ " increments. If the fish is slightly under the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ " the measurement will be rounded down. For example, if a fish is 18 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches the fish will be entered and scored as an 18-inch fish. If it is 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches the fish will be entered as 18.25 inches.
 - b. The Tournament organizer and staff will be solely responsible and retain the right to declare any photos unacceptable.
 - c. All fish entered must be within the legal rules determined by the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Province where the event is taking place.
 - d. All fish must be caught on rod, reel, line and hook (lure).
 - e. Species are determined by each particular event. There is **no minimum size requirement for multispecies events**, however a **12" minimum** will apply during the Bass events.
 - f. All photos must contain the unique identifier that will be used for each event. The identifier will become available at the start of each event. All fish entries must appear to be fresh and free of any obvious mutilation or mishandling. If two fish of the same length are used they must show evident signs of distinction.

Recording Your Catch

- a) The measuring device should display a numerical inch marking (a black Sharpie works well for making them show up better), a black line where the bumper meets the board and a sticker on the bumper. Images that are blurry, out of focus or underexposed and make it difficult to score accurately will be disqualified.
- b) The longest virtual stringer will be awarded first place and so on.

Delays/Reschedule/Cancellation of Event

1. Inclement weather: The Tournament Director may delay, reschedule or cancel a tournament.

Scoring

1. Each angler will be provided a unique identifier, which **MUST** be **FULLY** visible and legible in the photo, additionally an event identifier consisting of a letter and number randomly selected by two participants must be visible.
2. Your **LONGEST** verified lengths will be your total score of your longest **THREE** (multispecies) and **FIVE** (bass) will be measured to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and there will be no rounding-up, only down. Culling is allowed with your pictures.
3. The angler with the highest total score of a maximum of three/five fish will be declared the winner. **A participant does not have to catch three/five fish to win the event.**

Photo Criteria

1. Photo must include the entire fish.

2. Fish must face LEFT with its dorsal fin facing UPWARD.
3. Mouth must be closed. **There will be a ½ " deduction in score for a fish with open mouth.**
4. Tail must NOT be MANUALLY pinched.
5. Fish must be visibly unharmed.
6. Markings on the measuring device must be visible and legible.
7. Photos must be taken from directly above the fish, not at an angle.
8. Assigned identifiers must be visible.
9. Entire fish must be visible in the picture without obstructions.

Here are a couple of videos demonstrating the Catch-Photo-Release procedure.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIIxP3f5JPs>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTP-J-YImHo>

Photo Release

Participants grant the events' director and sponsors all rights to use their photos, names, voice, and biographical information in any promotion, production, articles, or press releases without entitlement to royalties or compensation in connection with such use.

Photo Submission Criteria

1. Only fish scoring pictures to be submitted (3 or 5 pictures per participant).
2. Photos must be submitted in the exact order that they were taken.
3. Cell phone/camera images will be accepted.

Measuring Device

1. No sharing of measuring devices.
2. Your measuring device may be checked at any time.
3. The only approved measuring devices are **Hawg Trough** or **Ketch board**.

Rules, Interpretation and Protests

1. All the rules are decided and interpreted by the Tournament Director.
2. The Tournament Director's decisions are FINAL.
3. Any protests shall be immediately directed to the Tournament Director.
4. Once the awards ceremony begins all results are official and final.

Ties During all Events

In the event of a tie the following criteria will determine the winner.

- a. Biggest Fish
- b. 2nd Biggest Fish
- c. Time the card was submitted. (The one to turn in their memory card first)

Prizes and Awards

Based on a minimum of five anglers per event, the money from the pool will be divided as follows:

First Place 50% + Three extra tickets for raffles at end of the Series.

Second Place 30% + Two extra tickets for raffles at the end of the Series.

Third Place 20% + One extra ticket for raffles at the end of the Series.

If less than five participants in any given event the winner will take all the money from the pool.

Every paid participant will get one ticket for raffles at the end of the Series.

Raffle tickets earned will be recorded at each event and handed out at the year end BBQ.

Angler of the Year will be determined based on the total number of points earned during the year.

Top 6 anglers will get points:

1st place gets 12pts.

2nd place gets 10pts.

3rd place gets 8pts.

4th place gets 6pts.

5th place gets 4pts.

6th place gets 2pts.

Every other participant gets 1 point just for showing up and ONLY if he/she stays until the end of the event.

Angler of the Year will receive a brand new 9" Raymarine Element fish finder kindly donated by **Raymarine**.

If you have any questions feel free to e-mail here: BassinDrB@gmail.com and/or check out our Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/kaao.ca/>

